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The Playground

October, 1927



The Service of Municipal Recreation Systems to America
Shown through Pictures

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No. 7

The Playground

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by the*

Playground and Recreation Association of America

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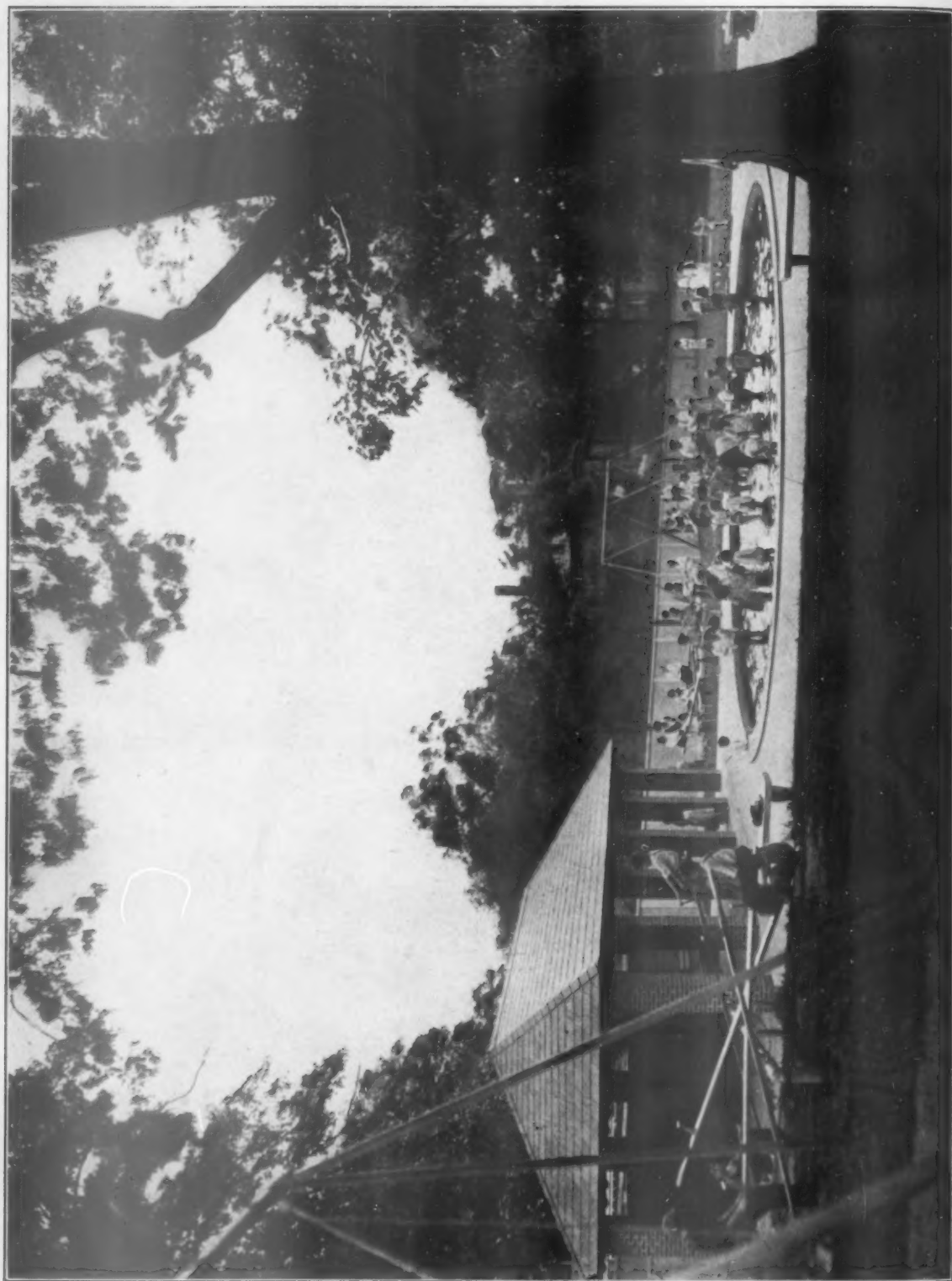
A TEA PARTY.



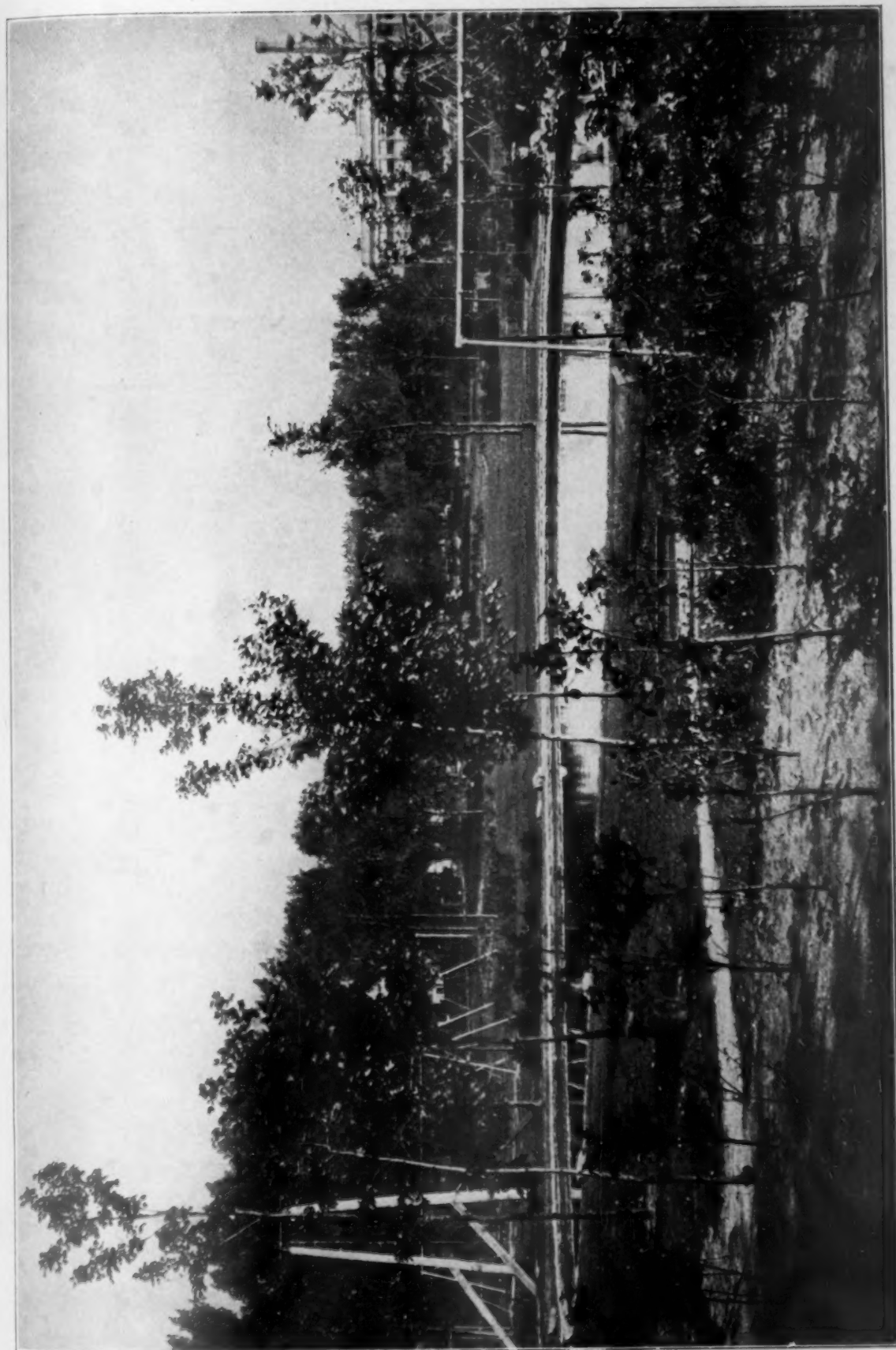
SAND PLAY.



BUSY HANDS.



A REAL PLAYGROUND HAS ACTIVITY.



A REAL PLAYGROUND SHOULD ALSO HAVE BEAUTY



FANCY ROPE THROWING.



BASEBALL.



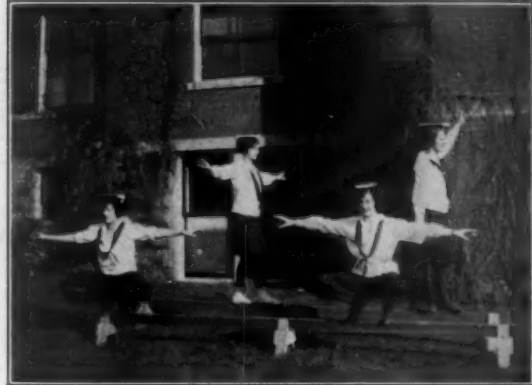
FOOTBALL.



RUNNING BROAD JUMP



VOLLEY BALL.



BALANCING.



THE STANDING BROAD JUMP.

THE PLAYGROUND



WRESTLING.



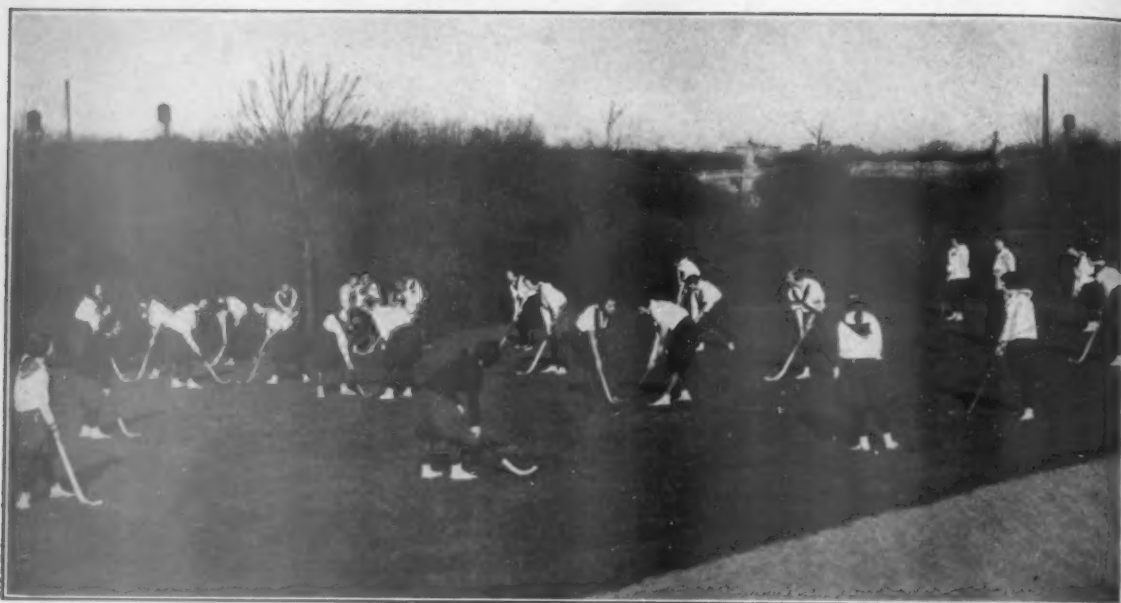
MAY WE HAVE MORE LIKE THESE?



PYRAMIDS.



TRACK MEET.



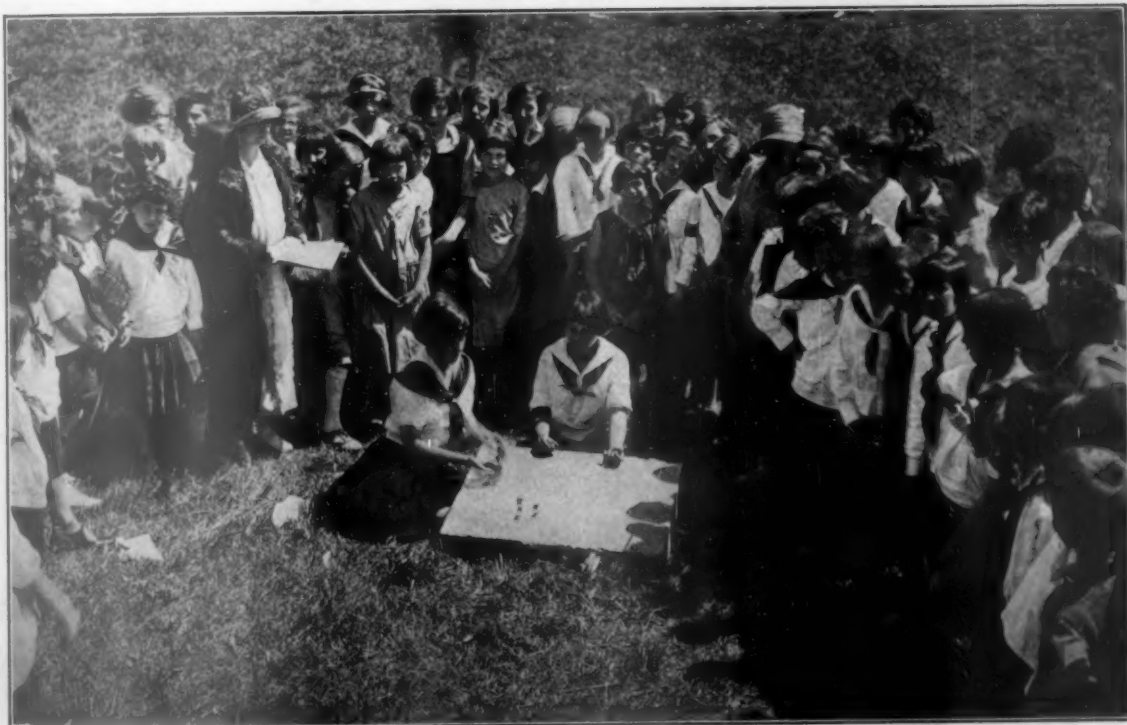
FIELD HOCKEY.



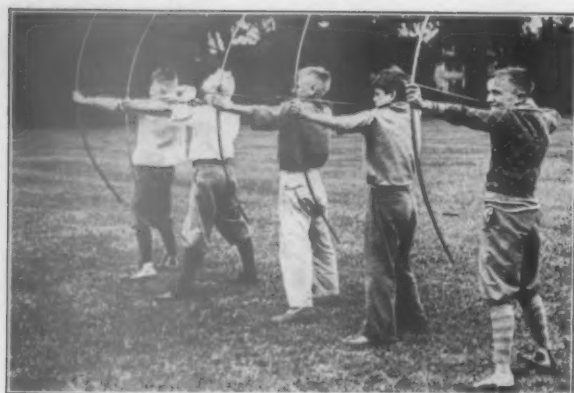
PADDLE TENNIS.



ARCHERY CONTEST.



JACKSTONE CONTEST.



ARCHERY.



RELAY RACE.



STILT WALKING.



CHINNING.



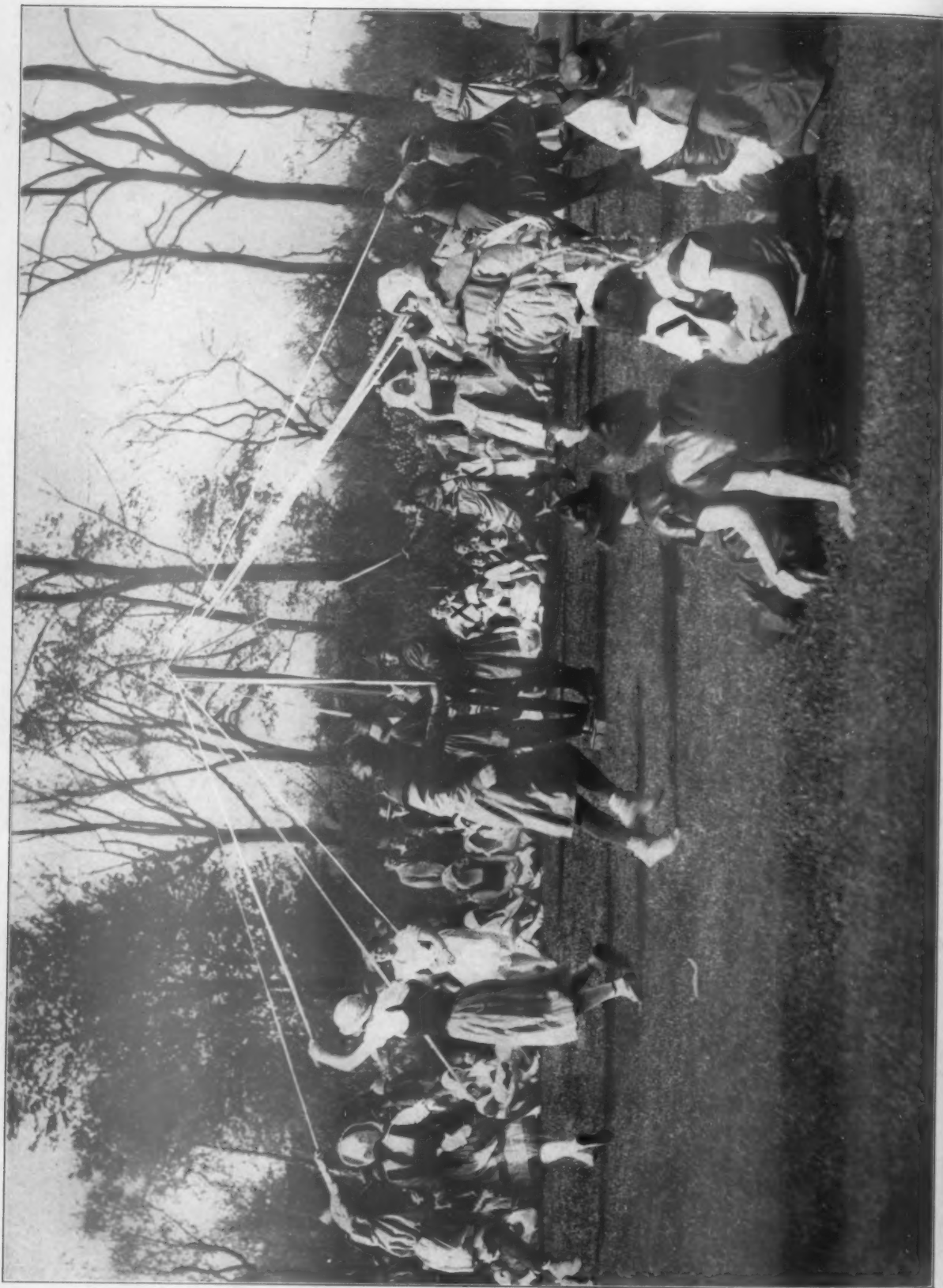
VOLLEY BALL.



BASEBALL.



ROLLER SKATING IN COSTUME.



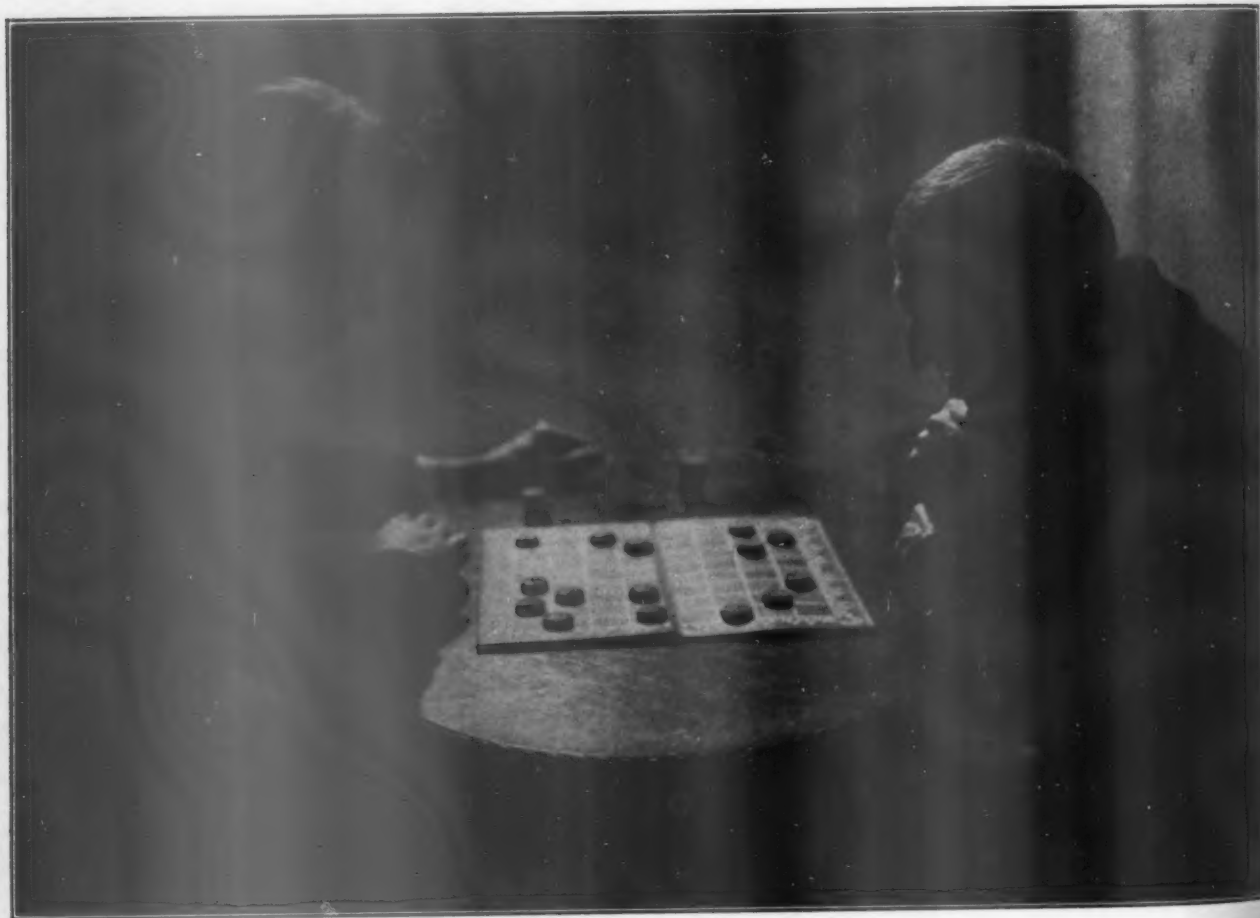
A MAY FESTIVAL



THE GYPSY STORYTELLERS.



CROQUET.



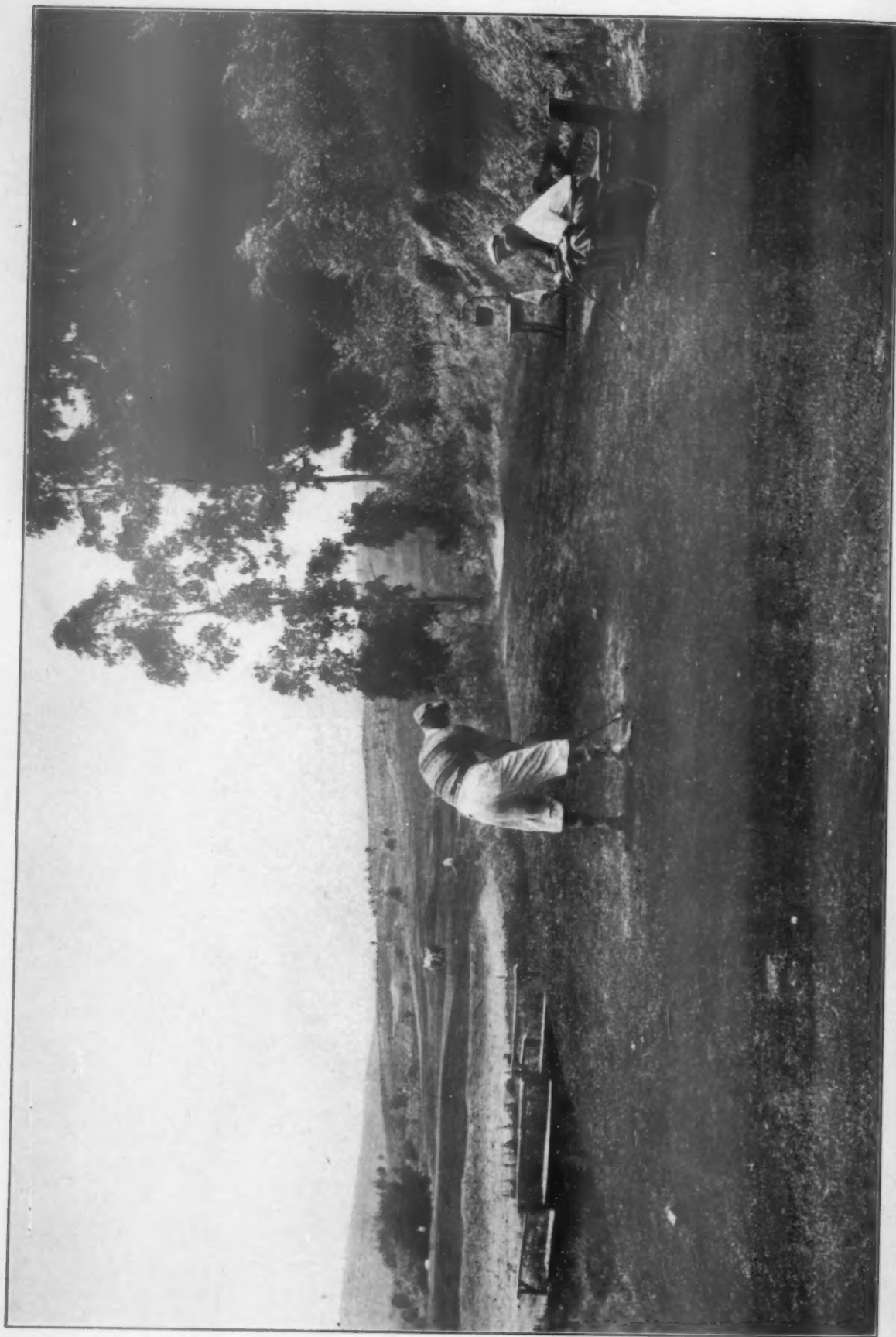
AN ABSORBING MOMENT



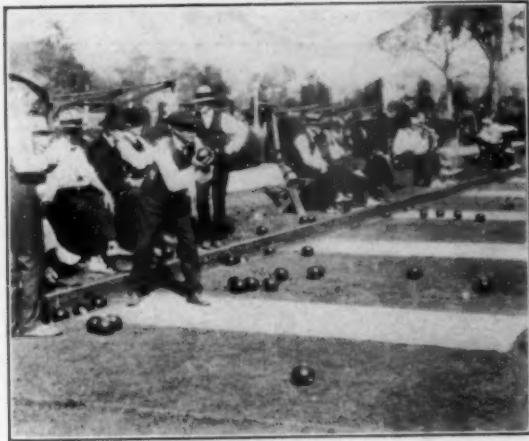
TENNIS CHAMPIONS.



HANDBALL.



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BOWLING.



HORSESHOE PITCHING.

THE PLAYGROUND



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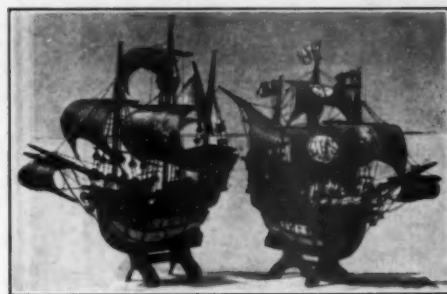
A CLASS IN HANDCRAFT.



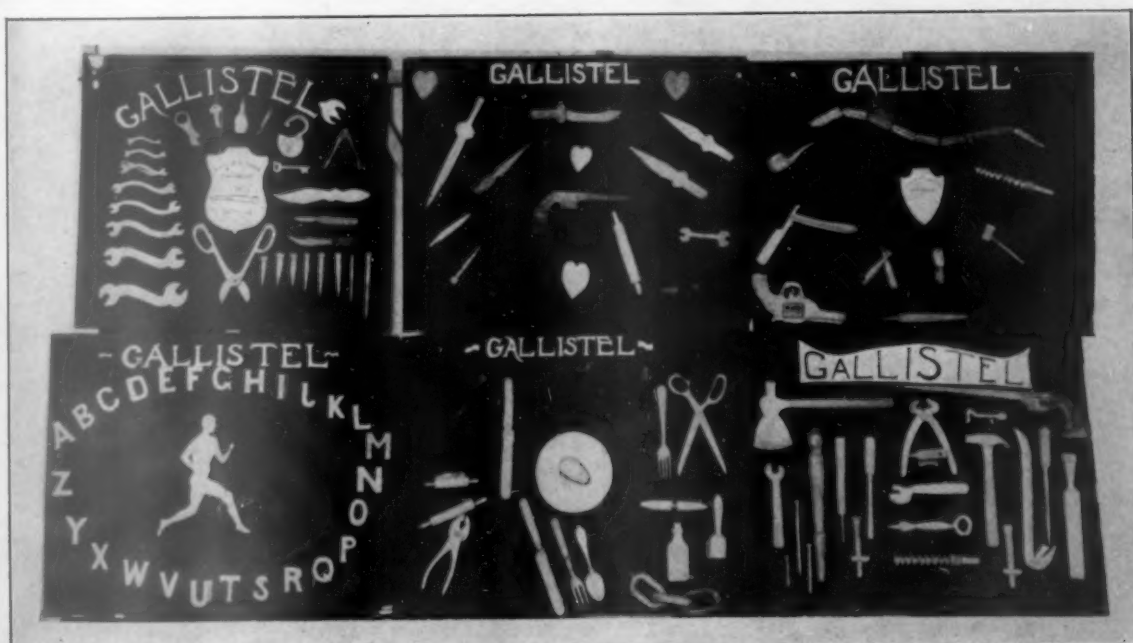
JUNIOR AIRCRAFT.



A GROTESQUE KITE.



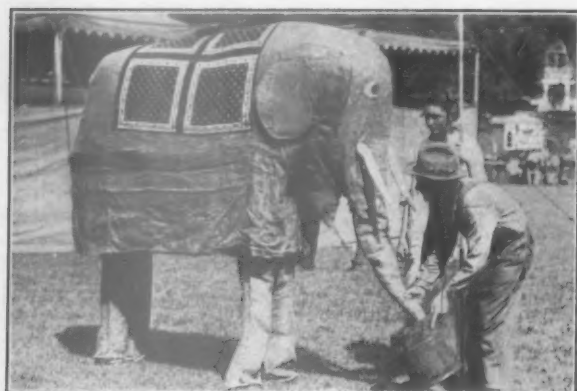
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Breathed upon by healing
Mirrored in the flowing riv
Blessed by Nature's sooth



MOUNTAIN CLIMBERS.

and by mighty mountains,
upon by healing balm,
the flowing river,
by Nature's soothing calm."



AN ATTIC PLAYGROUND.



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A DOLL SHOW.



A DOLL PARADE.



BRUN'S INN.



RUTH AND NAOMI.



HANSEL AND GRETEL.



PIRATES OF PENZANCE.



A SPRING PLAY DAY.



DANCE OF GREETING.



OUT DOOR FOLK DANCING.



BARBER SHOP BALLADS.



A PLAYGROUND QUARTET.



A COMMUNITY CENTER ORCHESTRA.



PHOTO BY
CALVIN WHEAT

REAL HARMONY.



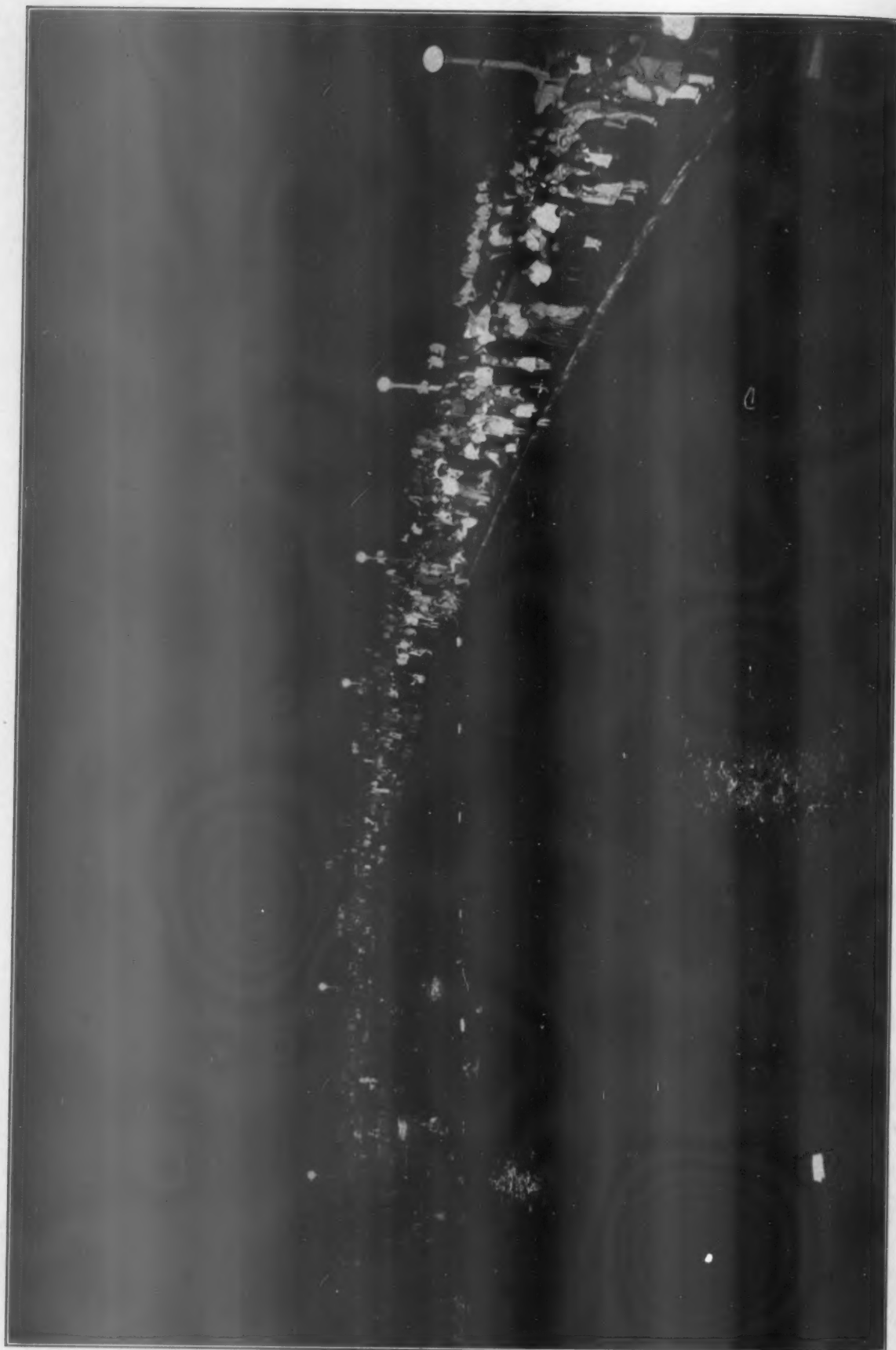
CROPS ARE PRETTY GOOD THIS YEAR.



A SWIMMING LESSON.



A GROUP OF SPLENDID LIFE GUARDS.



NIGHT USE OF SWIMMING POOLS.



SPLASH!



WATER SPORTS.



THE JOYS OF WADING.



THE LURE OF THE TRAIL.



AND, OH, THE JOYS OF THE BACON FRY!



AROUND THE CAMPFIRE.



A HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION



CHRISTMAS CAROLLERS AT DAWN.



ICE CARNIVAL.



TOBOGGANING.



BRACING AIR AND OUTDOOR SPORTS.



A WINTER HIKING CLUB HOUSE.



AMERICAN YOUTH—OUR GREATEST CHALLENGE

The Service of Municipal Recreation Systems to America Shown through Pictures

This picture issue of THE PLAYGROUND shows a little of the kind of activity 5868 playgrounds, 1797 athletic fields, 693 swimming pools, 2116 indoor recreation centers are making possible in America. Employed play leaders to the number of 17,090, and 8625 volunteer play leaders are helping. Aid is being given to home recreation, to church recreation. The attempt is to build up the recreational life of the people in all natural human relationships wherever men, women, and children are found, all seasons of the year. And yet there are still over three hundred cities and towns over 8000 population not reporting a single playground or play leader.

The movement is united nationally in the Playground and Recreation Association of America which has behind it more than twenty-one years of successful efficient service. About twenty millions of dollars are expended each year on local recreation. The budget for the national Association is about two percent of the local—\$354,046 for 1927. To strengthen the recreation life of America is to make all else in America more valuable and worth while.

A Last Will

He was stronger and cleverer, no doubt, than other men, and in many broad lines of business he had grown rich, until his wealth exceeded exaggeration. One morning, in his office, he directed a request to his confidential lawyer to come to him in the afternoon. He intended to have his will drawn. A will is a solemn matter, even with men whose life is given up to business, and who are by habit mindful of the future. After giving this direction he took up no other matter, but sat at his desk alone and in silence.

It was a day when summer was first new. The pale leaves upon the trees were starting forth upon the yet unbending branches. The grass in the parks had a freshness in its green like the freshness of the blue in the sky and of the yellow of the sun—a freshness to make one wish that life might renew its youth. The clear breezes from the south wantoned about, and then were still, as if loath to go finally away. Half idly, half thoughtfully, the rich man wrote upon the white paper before him, beginning what he wrote with capital letters such as he had not made since, as a boy at school, he had taken pride in his skill with the pen:

In The Name of God, Amen. I, CHARLES LOUNSBURY, being of sound and disposing mind and memory, do now make and publish this, my last will and testament, in order, as justly as I may, to distribute my interests in the world among succeeding men.

And first, that part of my interests which is known among men and recognized in the sheep-bound volumes of the law as my property, being inconsiderable and of none account, I make no account of in this, my will.

My right to live, it being but a life estate, is not at my disposal, but these things excepted, all else in the world I now proceed to devise and bequeath.

Item: And first, I give to good fathers and mothers, but in trust for their children, nevertheless, all good little words of praise and all quaint pet names, and I charge said parents to use them justly, but generously, as the needs of their children shall require.

Item: I leave to children exclusively, but only for the life of their childhood, all, and every, the dandelions of the fields and the daisies thereof, with the right to play among them freely, according to the custom of children, warning

them at the same time against the thistles. And I devise to children the yellow shores of creeks and the golden sands beneath the waters thereof, with the dragon flies that skim the surface of said waters, and the odors of the willows that dip into said waters, and the white clouds that float high over the giant trees. And I leave to children the long, long days to be merry in, in a thousand ways, and the night and the moon, and the train of the Milky Way to wonder at, but subject nevertheless, to the rights hereinafter given to lovers; and I give to each child the right to choose a star that shall be his, and I direct that the child's father shall tell him the name of it, in order that the child shall always remember the name of that star after he has learned and forgotten astronomy.

Item: I devise to boys, jointly, all the useful idle fields and commons, where ball may be played, and all snow-clad hills where one may coast, and all streams and ponds where one may skate, to have and to hold the same for the period of their boyhood. And all meadows, with the clover blooms and butterflies thereof; and all woods, with their appurtenances of squirrels, and whirring birds and echoes and strange noises; and all distant places which may be visited, together with the adventures there found, I do give to said boys to be theirs. And I give to said boys each his own place at the fireside at night, with all pictures that may be seen in the burning wood or coal to enjoy without let or hindrance, and without any incumbrance of cares.

Item: To lovers, I devise their imaginary world, with whatever they may need, as the stars of the sky, the red, red roses by the wall, the snow of the hawthorn, the sweet strains of music, or aught else they may desire to figure to each other the lastingness and beauty of their love.

Item: To young men, jointly, being joined in a brave, mad crowd, I devise and bequeath all boisterous, inspiring sports of rivalry. I give to them the disdain of weakness and undaunted confidence in their own strength. Though they are rude and rough I leave to them alone the power of making lasting friendships, and of possessing companions; and to them exclusively I give all merry songs and brave choruses to sing, with smooth voices to troll them forth.

Item: And to those who are no longer children, or youths, or lovers, I leave memory, and I leave to them the volumes of the poems of Burns and Shakespeare, and of other poets, if there are others, to the end that they may live the old days over again, freely and fully without tithe or diminution; and to those who are no longer children or youths or lovers I leave, too, the knowledge of what a rare, rare world it is.

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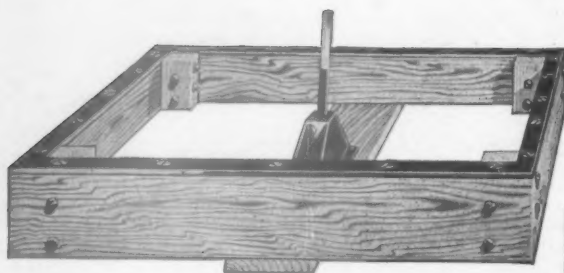
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MUNICIPAL GOLF (Construction and Administration)

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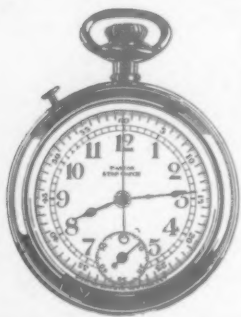
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